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STUFFING FOR THE TURKEY

THE miner has many reasons to be thankful for what the year has brought forth. The fact that silver is quoted today at .74375, or the highest average since 1893, is cause in this community to be grateful. Last May the price reached .7725, but it did not hold very long, for the following month the quotation slipped back to .65. To show the steady appreciation of the white metal since 1893, when the average price of the year was .73, the following figures are given:

1893, .78	1899, .60	1905, .61	1911, .53
1894, .63	1900, .60	1906, .68	1912, .615
1895, .65	1901, .60	1907, .66	1913, .604
1896, .68	1902, .53	1908, .53	1914, .553
1897, .60	1903, .54	1909, .52	1915, .565
1898, .59	1904, .58	1910, .54	

The averages of daily market prices current at New York and are the same as used by the government survey for calculation of values. The highest sale actually recorded since 1893 was on May 12, 1916, when 77 1/2 cents was paid for silver.

The price of copper is even more startling, dating back from the present quotation of 32 1/2 to 33 1/2, which is the highest attained since 1872, when copper was quoted at 35.56. In 1865 the price was 39.25 and the maximum known for the red metal was recorded in 1864 when .47 was paid. Since 1866 the quotations have been as follows:

1867, .2537	1879, .186	1891, .138	1903, .137
1868, .23	1880, .214	1892, .116	1904, .128
1869, .2425	1881, .182	1893, .108	1905, .156
1870, .2115	1882, .191	1894, .095	1906, .193
1871, .2412	1883, .165	1895, .107	1907, .20
1872, .3556	1884, .13	1896, .108	1908, .132
1873, .208	1885, .08	1897, .12	1909, .13
1874, .220	1886, .111	1898, .124	1910, .127
1875, .227	1887, .138	1899, .171	1911, .125
1876, .21	1888, .168	1900, .166	1912, .165
1877, .19	1889, .135	1901, .167	1913, .155
1878, .166	1890, .156	1902, .122	1914, .133
		1915, .22	

Lead has doubled in value and is quoted at \$7.20, a price that would have seemed fabulous had it been forecast three years ago, when the metal was a drug on the market. Zinc is selling at \$105 per ton, when three years ago the metal scarcely paid the cost of production.

HIGH COST OF INSURANCE

ONE year ago the underwriters in charge of this district gave the public to understand that they would bring about a reduction of the fire insurance rates if citizens complied with certain suggestions. The principal feature was the installation of a high pressure fire service water system. The property owners, county commissioners and taxpayers generally were a unit in favor of the innovation and promptly proceeded to carry the suggestion into force. They acquitted themselves nobly, although the commissioners made the reform a hardship that still appeals the pocketbooks of the poor. Nevertheless, the improvements were wrought out and the completion was made the subject of representations to the underwriters with a request that they accede to the popular demand for an abatement of prohibitory rates. Nothing has come of the inquiry. The insurance rates in this town are just as high as at the time when there was absolutely no protection and every inducement was extended to firebugs to start a conflagration. Underwriters apparently prefer that form of risk, for there is not the slightest sign of making any concessions. The investment of \$30,000 in the construction of the high pressure system implied an obligation on the part of the parties of the second part to do their share in reducing the cost of living and conducting business in Tonopah, but there is no disposition shown to lift the burdens imposed on property owners. This is a matter that the new county commissioners might appropriately take up to ascertain where the failure lies and to place the responsibility at the doors of those who did not carry out their pledges. Some action is imperative. Rumor has it that the underwriters, instead of lowering rates, are contemplating an advance that will prevent the poor man from securing the slight protection he manages to buy at the existing exorbitant premiums. The improvement in the local fire fighting service has placed the town in the foremost ranks of small towns, with a complete motor fire fighting equipment and a water pressure capable of sending several streams over the tallest buildings in the business district. Unless something is done at once people will lose faith in promises and content themselves with taking a chance on the hazards of fire. The efficiency of the Tonopah system has been increased many fold since the underwriters addressed their ultimatum and it behooves somebody to find why there has not been any reduction.

Citizens of Tonopah are eager to celebrate the dawn of a new political administration by inviting all classes of industries to come hither and establish themselves. The people of Tonopah would welcome nothing better than a return of the shops of the Tonopah & Goldfield railway on the site where they formerly thrived and contributed a nice quota annually to the support of the county.

Grand juries are somehow or another classed with the fossilized elements of history which are kept in rotation through sheer force of custom, but it is pleasing to note that in the present case Nye county has a group of business men who have some practical ideas that can be enforced by giving them official attention. Among these is the fire ordinances, which should be extended to the effect of preventing the construction of tinder boxes in the fire limits.

Rumania was a pretty rich prize after all for a starving country, since the conquest, costing two weeks' operations, netted the German government something like 150,000,000 bushels of wheat and 100,000,000 bushels of corn, wheat ranking with the best highgrade worth \$1.85 per bushel. The release of this quantity of foodstuffs is responsible for Chicago speculators dropping the price over nine cents a bushel at one session.

The kaiser must be feeling pretty cocky these days, when he sends out advance information of what Christmas presents he is going to deliver by the next trip of the Deutschland. He might remember the Bremen and take out insurance.

One of the anachronisms of Christianity is this talk of the Christmas season commemorating the Master of Peace through presents from the warlord of the universe.

Some British tar must have had a case of nerves when he reported German submarines operating on the outskirts of New York.

Villa, dead or alive? Questioners are respectfully referred to Chihuahua or the White House.

CITIZENS MUST SERVE IN ARMY OR NAVY

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Universal military training in some form as the solution of the recruiting problem for the army and navy will be placed before congress during the coming session, if Chairman Chamberlain of the senate military committee is successful in carrying out his announced program.

Senator Chamberlain said he would press his own bill for such training introduced last year. He said the virtual impossibility of recruiting the army to the peace strength authorized in the national defense act already had been demonstrated. Both army and navy recruiting services are combing the country for men, he declared, with little success. The Chamberlain bill would require military training of all boys between 12 and 23 years of age.

If Villa survived all those obituary notices he's on the list of unkillables.—Atlanta Constitution.

Cattania having prohibited bull fights, the Mexicans will have to be satisfied with answering American notes.—Boston Journal.

When an Argentine statesman talks about the barbarism of Europe, we see that the star of empire takes its way westward.—Birmingham Ledger.

Some people's idea of a good time is to take up yours.—Albuquerque Herald.

Why is it some fellows think that loud talking wins an argument?—Louisville Herald.

Some one has invented a phonograph which can be made for 15 cents. As if life didn't have joy-killers enough already.—Detroit Free Press.



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